



Docket No.: 062807-0148

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
: :
Eri IKENAGA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 8373
: :
Application No.: 10/697,701 : Group Art Unit: 2141
: : Allowed: October 10, 2007
Filed: October 31, 2003 : Examiner: Q. N. Nguyen
: :
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONDUCTING A TRANSACTION BETWEEN
TRANSACTION PROCESSING SYSTEMS

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanied the October 10, 2007 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Although Applicants agree that the claims are patentable over the art, entry of the Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the particular reasoning set forth in the Statement, particularly to the extent that the wording used in the Statement may differ from the actual claim language and/or the otherwise proper interpretation of the language of individual claims.

The Statement sets forth a single rationale for patentability with respect to all of the allowed claims. However, the language of the Statement most closely tracks that of method claim 5. The claims differ as to language and scope, which is overlooked in the Statement.

Claims 13 and 15 include recitations somewhat similar to 5 but recast in product and apparatus form. However, the other claims (4, 12 and 14) are more substantially different. For example, there are specifying and generating steps mentioned in the Statement that are not even present in claims 4, 12 and 14. Each claim is independently patentable in its own right, not just for one general reason as suggested by the Statement.

It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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